venture-, commanded *by* Captain Cross, the *Lion* by George Fenner, the *Foresight* by Mr Thomas Vavasour, and the *Crane* by Duffield, these two last being small ships), were riding at anchor near Flores, one of the westerly islands of the Azores, when news was brought of the approach of the Spanish fleet, and the report no sooner made than the enemy was an sight.

The English ships were all in confusion, many of the ships' companies being on shore, everything out of order, and in every ship half of the company sick and unserviceable From the *Revenge* there were ninety men sick ashore , in the *Sonaventure* not enough left to handle the mainsail, and, had not twenty men been taken out of a bark of Sir George Carey's, which was then burnt, she would never have reached England In this plight the Spanish fleet, having shrouded its approach by the island, came upon them so swiftly that the English ships had scarcely time to weigh their anchors, some even being forced to slip their cables and set sail

Sir Richard Grenville, having stayed to recover his sick men from the shore, was the last to weigh, and had by now delayed too long to recover the wind before the enemy was upon him The master of the ship and others urged him to cut his mainsail and cast about, but Sir Richard refused to turn from the enemy and persuaded his company that he would pass through their two squadrons and force them to give way before him This he did with the first ships, but the *San Philip*, a great ship of 1500 tons, coming towards him took the wind out of his sails so that the *Revenge* could neither keep way nor feel the helm The *Revenge* being entangled with the *San Pbthp,* four other ships boarded her , two on the starboard and two on

her larboard

The fight thus beginning at three o'clock of the afternoon continued very terrible all that evening But the great *San Pkthp,* having received the lower tier of the *Revenge,* discharged with crossbar-shot, shifted herself with all diligence from her sides, utterly misliLmg her first entertainment The Spanish ships were filled with companies of soldiers, in some two hundred, in some five, in others eight hundred, besides the mariners In the *Revenge* there were none at all besides the manners but the servants of the commander and some few voluntary gentlemen only After many vollies had been interchanged from the great